

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 11299

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: USIRJC

SUBJ: USIRJC MOBILE VOCATIONAL TRAINING UNIT PROJECT

REFS: A. STATE 261008 B. TEHRAN 11023

1. LETTER HAND-CARRIED TO MINISTRY OF LABOR DEPUTY MINISTER FEREIDUN NASSERI NOVEMBER 17 SUMMARIZING PROJECT PROPOSAL FOR MOBILE VOCATIONAL TRAINING UNIT PROJECT, CENTERING AROUND NOMINATION OF DR. WARZECHA AS COORDINATOR. NASSERI SEPARATELY GIVEN MORE DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND FINANCIAL BREAKOUT, FOR HIS USE ONLY, ON TOTAL PROJECT COST.

2. SOLICITING NASSERI'S EARLIEST REPLY TO OUR LETTER, EMBOFF WAS TOLD THAT NASSERI WOULD DISCUSS SUBJECT BRIEFLY WITH MINISTER THAT AFTERNOON, BUT DETAILED REPLY MIGHT BE DELAYED BECAUSE OF SEVERAL PRESSING MATTERS, ONE OF WHICH IS UNDER-SECRETARIAL RESHUFFLE IN WHICH DEPUTY MINISTER FOR MANPOWER HASSAN FARZANEH ALREADY OUT.

3. IN GENERAL, NASSERI SEEMED TO HAVE NO DIFFICULTY WITH THE PROJECT CONCEPT LEADING BY LOGICAL STAGES TO THE LETTING OF REQUESTS FOR PROCUREMENT (RFP'S). HE STATED, HOWEVER, THAT THERE ARE THOSE IN THE IRANIAN GOVERNMENT WHO THINK U.S. SHOULD MEET BOTH EXPERT AND PROJECT SUPPORT COSTS AS PRE-SALES ACTIVITY. NASSERI, ON OTHER HAND, FEELS

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THIS MONEY IS WELL SPENT BY IRAN IN TERMS OF ACQUIRING,

IN THE PROCESS, MACHINERY FOR PROPOSAL EVALUATION WHICH COULD SAVE FAR MORE SIGNIFICANT SUMS AT THE PROCUREMENT STAGE. HOW MUCH MONEY MINLAB WILL HAVE FOR THE PURCHASE OF MOBILE CENTERS HE COULD NOT SAY, SINCE THIS STILL BEING THRASHED OUT WITH PLAN AND BUDGET ORGANIZATION.

4. THINKING OUT LOUD, NASSERI SAID THAT IF PROBLEMS COME UP WITH THE PLAN ORGANIZATION ON SUPPORT COSTS, HE COULD PERHAPS ALTERNATELY SELL THE IDEA OF A PRELIMINARY VISIT BY WARZECHA ON SAME BASIS (I.E. SALARY PLUS TRAVEL AND PER DIEM) AS PREVIOUS MERSON TDY'S. THIS THOUGHT IMMEDIATELY DISCOURAGED BY EMBOFF, WHO POINTED OUT THAT WHOLE BASIS OF WARZECHA'S PRESENCE HERE WOULD BE UNDERMINED IF 7S.-BASED SUPPORTING TEAM WAS NOT ORGANIZED AND COMMITTED BEFOREHAND.

5. COMMENT: NASSERI IS STRETCHED VERY THIN AT THIS POINT WITH NUMBER OF PROBLEMS INCLUDING INTERNAL MINISTRY REORGANIZATION. SINCE WE WILL CONTINUE TO NEED HIS GOOD WILL AND SUPPORT TO BRING JOINT COMMISSION ACTIVITIES TO FRUITION, BELIEVE IT BEST NOT TO PRESS OVERLY HARD AT THIS MOMENT FOR QUICK REPLY TO MOBILE UNIT PROPOSAL.
HELMS

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